

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 060414
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EA/TIMBS:HEMEINHEIT:EVC
APPROVED BY EA:RBOAKLEY
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S/NM:MFALCO
S/S -TMARTIN
NSC - MR. ARMACOST (SUBS)

-----026711 090501Z /15

P 090203Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 060414

EXDIS

E.O. 11652:XGDS-1,2

TAGS: SNAR, TH

SUBJECT:RTG NARCOTICS POLICY

REF: A) STATE 34982; B) BANGKOK 4452; C) STATE 41705
D) BANGKOK 4960; E) BANGKOK 6782

1. DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES EMBASSY INITIATIVE IN IMPL-
MENTING REF A PRIOR PRIME MINISTER'S RETURN AND OPPORTUNITY
FOR AMBASSADOR TO MEET WITH HIM.

2. IN MAKING POINTS REF A WITH KRIANGSAK,
AMBASSADOR SHOULD ALSO DIRECT ATTENTION TO DESIRABILITY
FROM RTG'S POINT OF VIEW OF ESTABLISHING EXCELLENT CLIMATE
FOR VP TRIP BY TAKING CONCRETE ACTIONS BEFORE THE VP'S
ARRIVAL TO DEMONSTRATE ITS COMMITMENT TO NARCOTICS CONTROL.

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WE, OF COURSE, DO NOT WANT ANY "DRAMATIC ACTIONS" IN THE
FORM OF SUMMARY EXECUTIONS OF TRAFFICKERS. (KRIANGSAK HAS
ASSURED OAKLEY AND OTHERS THAT HE WOULD NOT USE HIS POWER
OF SUMMARY JUSTICE AGAINST TRAFFICKERS, BUT RATHER WOULD
SEEK TO STRENGTHEN THAI LAWS.) INCREASED SEIZURES AND
ARRESTS OF IMPORTANT TRAFFICKERS WOULD, HOWEVER, BE
EVIDENCE OF THE RTG'S COMMITMENT. IF SPECIFIC ACTIONS

SUGGESTED IN REF A, ESPECIALLY THE EXPULSION OF CHANG

CHI-FU AND/OR OTHER ACTIONS DIRECTED AGAINST SUA TRAFFICKING ACTIVITIES, WERE INITIATED BEFORE THE VICE PRESIDENT'S ARRIVAL, THE THAI WOULD NOT ONLY BE ABLE TO POINT TO THESE AS EVIDENCE OF THEIR INTENT TO TAKE SERIOUS ACTION, BUT WOULD ALSO HAVE SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVED THE EFFICIENCY OF THEIR LONG-TERM ENFORCEMENT EFFORT.

3. BEYOND THE APPROACHES WITH AIR MARSHALL SITTHI AND LTG THUANTHONG, HAS EMBASSY APPROACHED ANY OTHER RTG OFFICIALS? IF SO, WOULD APPRECIATE REPORTS ON CONVERSATIONS IN NORMAL CHANNELS.

4. AFTER AMBASSADOR HAS DISCUSSED PROPOSED ACTIONS WITH KRIANGSAK, DEPT WOULD APPRECIATE SOONEST EMBASSY'S RECOMMENDATIONS ON HOW BEST TO FOLLOW-UP ON SPECIFIC ACTION PROPOSALS WHICH EMBASSY BELIEVES ARE MOST LIKELY TO BE EFFECTIVE. VANCE

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